



HIGHAM LANE
NORTH ACADEMY

STATUTORY CONSULTATION FOR HIGHAM LANE NORTH ACADEMY

Proposed to open September 2025

Join us at one of our drop-in consultation events to find out more about the secondary school, ask any questions you may have, and share your views.

VIRTUAL EVENT:

1.00pm - 2.30pm on Wednesday 3rd July 2024

Join Microsoft Teams online at bit.ly/HLNAconsultation

IN-PERSON EVENT:

6.00pm - 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th July 2024

at Higham Lane School, Shanklin Drive,
Nuneaton CV10 0BJ

To confirm your attendance, please email: info@hlna.co.uk

Scan the
QR code to
join the event



PART OF

Central England
Academy Trust
SERVING THE HEART OF ENGLAND



CONSULTATION PERIOD

12pm Tuesday 18th June to 12pm Tuesday 30th July 2024

WELCOME

Central England Academy Trust has been approved by the Department for Education to establish a secondary free school for children aged 11-16 years at the new Top Farm neighbourhood in the Weddington area of Nuneaton.

The new school will help to address the accelerating need for secondary school places in the growing town and our vision is to create a high-quality and engaging provision to serve the needs of local children, young people, and families, embracing diversity of all forms.

Higham Lane North Academy is proposed to open with up to five forms of entry (150 places) in Year 7 from September 2025 at a state-of-the-art school and community resource located at the new Top Farm development, off Higham Lane. It will grow in line with the local need for additional secondary school places until reaching full capacity as a 900-pupil school with 180 pupils in each year group from Year 7 to Year 11. Non-selective, state-funded, non-denominational and co-educational, the new school will welcome pupils from all backgrounds and of all abilities.

Higham Lane North Academy will benefit from fantastic collaboration with its lead school, Higham Lane School, a high-performing 11-18 comprehensive school, in the top 6% of schools nationally for progress in 2023, located approximately one mile away. It will follow the same successful model for secondary education that has seen Higham Lane School judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in May 2019 and as World Class in 2021, and will continue the tradition of high-quality educational provision, academic excellence, exceptional pastoral care and personal development in a school at the heart of its community.

Our learning ethos is founded on the belief that there are no limits to the learning and development of each pupil. The cutting-edge facilities at this brand-new school will enable pupils to access not only the broad and balanced knowledge curriculum based on the proven Higham Lane School model but also an innovative education that will encompass digital media, IT, engineering, drama, music, art, with ample opportunity for sports recreation and education. An extended school day will provide access to a wide choice of enrichment activities.

Set within the new 1,700-home Top Farm development, the new school will also be an important hub for local residents, providing out-of-hours community use of the extensive sports facilities with dedicated pupil and visitor-only entrances.

This Statutory Consultation creates a forum of communication between the Trust, interested parents and carers, and other stakeholders, giving them the opportunity to help shape the secondary school so that it meets the needs of the Nuneaton community.

Your views and feedback are very important

Please read this booklet and complete the accompanying questionnaire which can be returned by post or completed online at: hlna.co.uk/consultation-questionnaire

You can also scan and email the completed questionnaire or send any comments to info@hlna.co.uk or leave us a message on **024 7638 8123** (Higham Lane School), specifying the Higham Lane North Academy consultation. We will note your comments or call you to discuss.

The consultation period ends at **12pm on Tuesday 30th July 2024**. We would appreciate your views and feedback by this date.

VISION AND ETHOS

“Together we grow to build independent lives through our core values of Harmony, Nurture and Communication.”

Our vision is to create a highly ambitious and engaging provision to serve the needs of local children, young people, and families, embracing diversity of all forms. At the heart of our strapline, ‘Serving the Heart of England,’ is our unwavering commitment to placing families at the core.

Together with direct support from the wider Trust, our innovative approaches and best practices to curriculum delivery and staff development at our nearby ‘Outstanding’ Higham Lane School will be replicated in Higham Lane North Academy.

Our learning ethos is founded on the belief that there are no limits to the learning and development of each pupil. We embrace the *Higham Values and Habits*, which, alongside our focus on digital media, IT, and engineering, will secure excellent academic and holistic outcomes. Our pupils will benefit from a comprehensive and balanced curriculum, support in developing valuable habits, and education targeting local and national skill gaps. We aim to promote inclusion, excellence, and specific skills, contributing directly to key strategic aims of Warwickshire. All our pupils will be prepared for local employment within the community, equipped with the skills and values needed to thrive.

To provide a strong working environment for all staff, to the immediate benefit of pupils, families, and the community, the Trust will use Higham Lane School’s expertise as an Aspiring Teaching School, as well as the rich CPD offer available at Trust level.

Access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities, such as the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, university visits, and TED talks, along with support in developing in-class and independent learning habits and processes, and spiritual, moral, social, and cultural knowledge, will enable pupils to become knowledgeable, active, happy, and responsible citizens.

In recognition of the new housing developments in the area, Higham Lane North Academy will be a beacon of excellence, bringing people together and changing lives through high-quality secondary provision. We envisage the new school serving as the heart of a growing community in Nuneaton that promotes strong connections within the new community by collaborating with local organisations to provide a plethora of events and experiences for pupils and families, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Higham Values and Habits will be the guiding principles of the new school that reflect the key values of the Trust whilst being embodied in everything the school does, including curriculum delivery.

Further details can be viewed on the school’s website: hlina.co.uk/vision-and-ethos

CURRICULUM

Our pupils will receive a fully inclusive, ambitious, enriching, broad and balanced, knowledge curriculum with a clear intent, effective implementation, and significant impact demonstrated by successful outcomes for all learners, particularly disadvantaged pupils.

Our curriculum is intended to foster limitless growth and encourage the pursuit of diverse aspirations. In line with our mission to empower children and young people to exceed expectations and reach outstanding outcomes, we promote collaborative learning, inclusive opportunities within an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum framework. Through this, all pupils will:

- ✓ feel safe, happy, and healthy and know how to keep themselves, and others, safe, happy, and healthy.
- ✓ enjoy high-quality learning opportunities, in a school at the leading edge of innovation.
- ✓ feel challenged and inspired to achieve excellence in every aspect of their lives.
- ✓ become confident, enterprising, creative learners, fully equipped for life and work.
- ✓ become fully rounded and responsible citizens, making a positive contribution to the school, local, national, and global community.

Higham Lane North Academy will continue to employ the innovative approaches that have been so successful at its partner secondary school in the Trust, Higham Lane School, to deliver a comprehensive and ambitious knowledge curriculum that includes the best that has been thought, said, and written about each subject, including the best of English language and literature throughout the ages. The curriculum will be based on the National Curriculum where pupils will make excellent progress in the broad range of subjects that they will study during Key Stage 3.

The wider, Key Stage 4 curriculum will offer the flexibility for personalisation with pupils able to take GCSEs early or study separate sciences but also reduce the number of subjects studied to receive extra curriculum support or be entered for alternative qualifications where this is appropriate. Our pupils will have a plethora of subjects to choose from, including digital media, IT and an automotive engineering course delivered in collaboration with a number of employers in Key Stage 4. These will be supported by a strong core of English, Maths, Science, French and Religious Studies, with many pupils choosing to select at least one humanity (History or Geography) from Key Stage 3, and one modern foreign language from Key Stage 4.

The arts, music, drama, sports, and design & technology will be vigorously encouraged at Higham Lane North Academy as these further enrich the pupils' learning experience. This will be achieved not only through excellent opportunities within lessons but also via the wide range of inclusive extra-curricular activities for all pupils to participate in.

Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO) will work closely with teachers and support staff to ensure that all pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) learn the powerful knowledge that all learners are entitled to. Tailored support will be provided to pupils with SEND and those who are disadvantaged. The school will benefit immensely from the specialist SEND knowledge of staff from within the Trust, which we will utilise to ensure a fully inclusive curriculum for our SEND learners.

For more information on the proposed curriculum, please visit hlna.co.uk/curriculum

DRAFT ADMISSIONS POLICY 2025/26

Higham Lane North Academy welcomes applications from parents of all children and our admissions process will be inclusive, open, fair and transparent, and will meet the requirements of the national School Admissions Code, the School Admission Appeals Code and related legislation.

Higham Lane North Academy is a secondary school with a total of 900 places in Years 7-11, located in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. The school plans to open with a published admission number (PAN) of 150 for entry into Year 7 in September 2025.

Higham Lane North Academy will run its own admissions arrangements, outside the normal Warwickshire County Council coordinated admissions scheme, for the 2025/26 school year only. This means that parents/carers will need to make a separate application for this school in addition to their other preferences of school through their local authority's common application form and may be offered two places on 3rd March 2025, one from Higham Lane North Academy and one through the local authority. If the Trust has not signed a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education by that date, offers will be conditional and will be confirmed once the Funding Agreement has been signed.*

If the number of applications exceeds the PAN, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school, then the oversubscription criteria below will be used to determine which applicants will be provided with a place, in the priority order shown:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children.
2. Children who live in the school's catchment area (priority area), in the order set out below:
 - i. Siblings of pupils attending the school at the time the application is received.
 - ii. Other children living in the priority area.

Children living on the boundary line will be considered to live in the priority areas shown on the map.

3. Children of any staff living outside of the priority area and who have been employed for two or more years at the school at the time the application is received, and/or those recruited to meet a demonstrable skills shortage.
4. Children living outside the priority area who will have a brother or sister at the school at the time of admission.
5. Other children living outside the priority area.

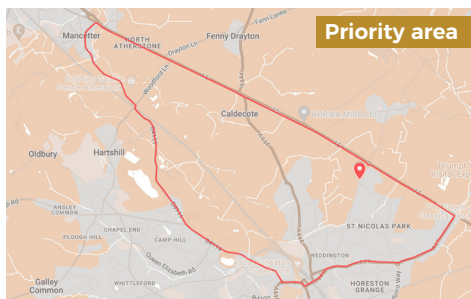
If a tie-break is needed to decide which child will be offered a place, the child living closest to the school will be offered a place.

Applicants who are refused a place at the school will be able to appeal to an independent appeal panel.

The red pin on the map below represents the site of Higham Lane North Academy. The red boundary represents the boundary of the priority area.

A full copy of our draft Admissions Policy for 2025/26, including the street names included in the priority area, can be viewed online at hlina.co.uk/admissions-policy

**Details of the application process and timings will be updated on the Admissions section of our website, hlina.co.uk/admissions.*



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a free school?

Free schools are independent, state-funded schools. They have the same legal status as academies.

Why is a new secondary school needed?

The new secondary school is needed to help to address the increasing need for additional secondary school places within Nuneaton.

When will Higham Lane North Academy open?

The school is scheduled to open in September 2025 subject to the required statutory approvals.

Where will the school be located?

The school will open in a state-of-the-art new build off Higham Lane at the new Top Farm neighbourhood in Weddington, north-east Nuneaton.

Who will run the school?

Higham Lane North Academy is being established by Central England Academy Trust, which runs Higham Lane School, judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in May 2019 and as World Class in 2021. Higham Lane North Academy will become the fourth school in the Central England Academy Trust, a thriving, diverse multi-academy Trust with incredible scope for collaborative working and opportunities across the region.

Can free schools make a profit?

No. Free schools are run on a not-for-profit basis by a charitable trust. The school will be run by the Headteacher and their leadership team and they will be answerable to a Board of Governors.

How will the school be accountable?

As with all three existing schools, HLNA will have its own Local Governing Body which will be officially constituted as a committee of the Board of Trustees, by which it will be held accountable. In addition, the school will also be accountable to the Department for Education through the terms of its Funding Agreement.

Trustees and school governors will meet regularly with the Headteacher and school staff in order to provide both challenge and support for the school.

Why are you only accepting applications for Year 7 pupils?

Our proposed intake reflects where demand for places has been identified. The new secondary school is proposed to open in September 2025 with five Year 7 classes (150 places) and grow in line with the local need for additional secondary school places until reaching full capacity as a

900-pupil school with 180 pupils in each year group from Year 7 to Year 11.

Are free schools selective?

No. Free schools have to follow the new admissions code in the same way as all state-funded schools.

Will a new school opening in the area mean less money for the other schools in the area?

No. Funding for free schools will be equivalent to the funding of maintained schools and academies in the same local authority area. The opening of a free school does not mean that the overall funding available in an area goes down. However, the total funding an individual school receives will depend on the number of pupils attending.

Will Higham Lane North Academy be inspected by Ofsted?

Yes. Free schools are subject to the same inspection and examination requirements as other academy category schools. The school will also be inspected by Ofsted prior to opening and will be subject to termly visits from the Department for Education during its first year.

Have you chosen a Headteacher for the school?

Not yet. We will be advertising nationally for a high-calibre leader to take on this opportunity. We hope to be able to appoint our Headteacher Designate to start in January 2025.

How can I apply for a place for my child/children?

Details of the application process and timings will be updated on the Admissions pages of our website, hlna.co.uk

How can I give my views?

You can complete the questionnaire in this booklet which can be returned by post or completed online at: hlna.co.uk/consultation-questionnaire

You can also scan and email the completed questionnaire to us or send any questions or comments to: info@hlna.co.uk or leave us a message on **024 7638 8123** (Higham Lane School), specifying the Higham Lane North Academy consultation.

We will note your comments or call you to discuss.

The consultation period ends at 12pm on Tuesday 30th July 2024. We would appreciate your views and feedback by this date.



Please complete and return this questionnaire by
12pm on Tuesday 30th July 2024.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Your views and feedback are very important

- Do you support Central England Academy Trust's proposal to open a secondary school within the new Top Farm neighbourhood in the Weddington area of Nuneaton to meet the need for school places in the local area?
 Yes No I don't know
 Please let us know your reasons.....

- Do you support Higham Lane North Academy's commitment to the promotion of inclusion, excellence, and specific skills for contributing directly to the key strategic aims of Warwickshire?
 Yes No I don't know
 Please let us know your reasons.....

- Do you support the proposed curriculum for Higham Lane North Academy?
 Yes No I don't know
 Please let us know your reasons.....

- Do you support the school's oversubscription criteria in the proposed Admissions Policy?
 Yes No I don't know
 Please let us know your reasons.....

- Do you agree that Higham Lane North Academy should open in September 2025, which would involve Central England Academy Trust entering into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education*?
 Yes No I don't know
 Please let us know your reasons.....

You can return the completed questionnaire in a stamped and sealed envelope to:

**Higham Lane North Academy,
c/o Higham Lane School,
Shanklin Drive,
Nuneaton CV10 0BJ.**

Complete online



You can also scan and email the completed questionnaire to us at:
info@hlna.co.uk

You can also complete it online at:
hlna.co.uk/consultation-questionnaire

- Do you have any additional comments?

Your details

Please tick all boxes that apply to you

I am a:

- Parent/carer of child(ren) due to start secondary school in 2025
- Parent/carer of child(ren) due to start secondary school after 2025
- Parent/carer of child(ren) already at secondary school
- Member of staff at a local school
- Representative of a community or youth group
- Local resident
- Local employee/employer/business owner
- Other
Please specify:

- I would prefer not to say

*The model Funding Agreement for multi-academy trusts can be found online at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-funding-agreements-multi-academy-trust

QUESTIONNAIRE



HIGHAM LANE
NORTH ACADEMY

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by 12 noon on Tuesday 30th July 2024.**

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 **www.hlna.co.uk**
 **info@hlna.co.uk**
 **@HLNAcademy**
 **@HLNAcademy**

NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our email newsletter to be kept up to date with the
latest developments, news and events. You can also register an
interest in a Year 7 place from 2025**

hlna.co.uk/newsletter

***Please note that registering your interest has no bearing on the admissions process.*

If you would like any of the information in this booklet in a different language
or format, please contact us on **024 7638 8123 (Higham Lane School)** or by
email at **info@hlna.co.uk** and we will assist you.



Data Protection Act

This questionnaire contains personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018. Any personal data provided may be shared with representatives of partner organisations and the Department for Education in order to develop plans for the proposed Higham Lane North Academy. The Central England Academy Trust will protect the personal data provided and ensure that it is not passed to anyone who is not authorised to see it. The information provided will be processed in accordance with the regulations contained in the Act and the Central England Academy Trust Data Protection Policy which is available at centralengland.co.uk/trust-policies. By submitting any personal information on this questionnaire, you agree that the school may process your information in accordance with these terms.